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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION: JUNE 17, 1981
1. EMBARKING ON A SECOND WEEK OF STRONG NEGATIVE REACTION TO THE ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQ'S NUCLEAR REACTOR, AMMAN DAILIES TODAY HIGHLIGHTED PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE.
2. ARABIC-LANGUAGE AR-RA'Y FRONTPAGED ITS REPORT UNDER THE HEADLINE "REAGAN DEFENDING ISRAEL AIR RAID ON THE IRAQI NUCLEAR PLANT AS A DEFENSIVE ACTION." IN A RELATED COMMENTARY ENTITLED "FACE TO FACE WITH THE AMERICAN ENEMY" THE PAPER SAID REAGAN HAD CHOSEN "TO
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DEFEND ISRAEL AND JUSTIFY ITS AGGRESSION AND ASSURE US OF HIS ADMINISTRATION'S DETERMINED ENMITY TOWARD THE ARABS." IT CONCLUDED: "THE ARABS MUST WAKE UP, THOSE WHO PROVIDE THE U.S. WITH OIL AND ACCOUNTS ... THE U.S. ARE THE FIRST AND REAL ENEMY OF THE ARABS ... ARABS SHOULD NEVER PUT THEIR FATE IN THE HANDS OF REAGAN AND BEGIN."
3. AD-DUSTOUR CAME OUT WITH THE HEADLINE: "REAGAN MAKES A BID FOR BEGIN: AMERICAN PRESIDENT JUSTIFIES THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION ON IRAQ. 'I DON'T IMAGINE THAT ISRAEL THREATENS THE ARABS.'" IN ONE OF TWO COMMENTARIES THE PAPER SAID "NOBODY IN THE WORLD, EVEN THE ISRAELIS THEMSELVES, EXPECTED U.S. PRESIDENT REAGAN TO BLATANTLY DEFEND THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION ..." EDITOR EXHORTED THE ARABS TO "USE ALL OF THEIR WEAPONS AND CAPABILITIES TO CONFRONT THIS DEFIANCE ... THE ARABS HAVE OIL AND IT IS HIGH TIME IT WAS USED AGAINST
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY J.L. DATE 9/30/82
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THE UNITED STATES. IF THE ARABS DO NOT DO THIS NOW, THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE IT IN THE FUTURE. THEY HAVE A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY THAT SHOULD BE EXPLOITED NOW -- NAMELY, THE WEAKNESS OF THE U.S. ECONOMY. THE ARABS, THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE BOYCOTT, COULD CAUSE FURTHER DETERIORATION AND COLLAPSE OF THE U.S. ECONOMY."

4. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE THE JORDAN TIMES FRONTPAGED ITS ACCOUNT OF THE CONFERENCE UNDER "REAGAN'S VIEW OF REACTOR RAID: ISRAELIS HAD REASON TO WORRY."

5. IN RELATED STORIES, OTHER HEADLINES WERE:

- "U.S. REPORTEDLY READY TO CENSURE ISRAEL IN U.N." (JORDAN TIMES).



- "WASHINGTON AND THE CRISIS BEGIN CREATED: MEMBERS OF CONGRESS DESCRIBE THE ISRAELI ACTION AS 'CRIMINAL ASSASSINATION.'" (AR-RA'Y).
- "THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL VOTE TODAY ON A DECISION AGAINST ISRAEL. EXPECTED ARAB SUMMIT IN BAGHDAD TO DISCUSS MEASURES AGAINST U.S. IF IT USES THE VETO." (AD-DUSTOUR).
- "AMERICANS VISITED TEL AVIA SECRETLY AND PROVIDED IT WITH INFORMATION ON THE IRAQI NUCLEAR PLANT." (AD-DUSTOUR)
- "NIXON: THE SITUATION IS EXPLODING IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS A RESULT OF THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION." (AD-DUSTOUR).

6. GUEST COMMENTATOR TAREQ MASARWEH (OF AR-RA'Y) IN THE JORDAN TIMES WARNED THAT THE EXPECTED ARAB 'BEAR IN HUGGING'" SHOULD NOT PROVIDE ARABS WITH "A NEW ANAESTHETIC TO MAKE US FORGET OUR NATIONAL PAIN UNTIL THE NEXT BLOW." AMONG THE LESSONS OF THE SABOTAGE, SAYS MASARWEH, IS THAT "OUR REAL ENEMY IS FIRST THE UNITED STATES AND THEN ISRAEL." TAYLOR
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